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RE: RSB 276 – An Act Concerning Licensing Requirements for Acupuncturists

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and Members of the Public Health Committee:

I am a licensed acupuncturist and small business owner in West Hartford, CT. I have a Master of Acupuncture from the New England School of Acupuncture in Watertown, MA and have been practicing in CT since 2002. I chose to practice here to be close to family and have found a wonderful community to serve in the greater Hartford area.

Thank you for raising SB 276. Please consider approving the bill in Committee with the revisions and recommendations that CSAOM is working on with the Department of Public Health.

The national organizations responsible for setting educational and certification requirements for acupuncturists have raised these requirements over the years. It is important to our professionals in this state, as well as our patients that these changes also be updated in our practice law. We need to ensure that acupuncturists licensed in Connecticut are held to the highest standards that are accepted nationally.

As an acupuncturist specializing in fertility, I am privileged to work with many women and couples who have difficulties conceiving. I have helped couples that were told they would never have a child on their own, conceive naturally and give birth to healthy babies. I have helped many others through the long and difficult process of assisted reproductive techniques accomplish the same goal. I have had thousands of hours of training in Oriental medicine and Western medicine, in order to be able to diagnose and treat these people effectively. This is a wonderful profession with so many opportunities to experience the personal satisfaction of helping people not only feel better but get tangible results where there was hopelessness.

Thank you very much for considering the approval of SB 276 in committee.

With Warm Regards
Karen Marie Borla, L.Ac.